

Appln. No. 09/966,634
Response to Office Action dated 11/10/03

Attorney Docket No. 10541-296

II. Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed November 10, 2003, kindly enter the foregoing amendment and consider the following remarks. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.112, Applicants request reconsideration of each and every ground of rejection set forth in the Office Action.

The Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In this Amendment, claims 1 and 14 have been have been amended, and claims 30-32 have been added. Thus claims 1-19 and 30-32 are pending and are at issue herein. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for maintaining acknowledgment of patentable subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner noted on page 8 of the Office Action that claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the Applicants have submitted herewith new claim 31 which incorporates the subject matter of claim 13 and claim 1. For these reasons, the Applicants respectfully requests that claim 31 be favorably considered.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §102 and §103

Claims 1-5 and 14-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over DeLine (U.S. Patent No. 6,124,886). Claims 6-8, 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLine. Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLine in view of Hicks (U.S. Patent No. 6,079,858).

Claim 1 as amended recites an insulator having first and second opposing sides, the at least one reflector mounted on the first side and the at least one conductor mounted on the second side. The at least one lamp is assembled on the first side and inside the at least one reflector. The at least one lamp has contacts extending through the at least one reflector and insulator and engaging the at least

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one conductor. These features are clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4 in corresponding portion of the specification.

To the contrary, the DeLine reference discloses at column 9, line 64+ and column 10, lines 1-34, the carrier member 20 is an insert molded assembly with a circuit member 62 preformed and inserted within a suitable mold cavity and support body 60 is molded there around to partially encase and/or encapsulate the circuit member within the support body. Further, the contacts of the at least one lamp do not extend through the reflector 110 and the support body 60 to engage the conductor 66. Rather, the conductor 66 includes a holder portion 66d which extends outwardly from the support body 60 to receive the conductors of the lamp 130.

Claims 2-13 depend from independent claim 1, which is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicants will not address the propriety of the Examiner's proposed modifications to the DeLine reference, including the combination of the DeLine reference with the Hicks reference. For these reasons, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-13.

Claim 14, as amended, recites that the at least one reflector has a contour shape to facilitate elimination. Further, the insulator has a contoured shape corresponding to the shape of the reflector. Such is disclosed in Figs. 3b and 5b in corresponding portions of the specification. New claim 30 also recites that the insulator and the at least one reflector are coextensive as disclosed on page 10, lines 1-9 of the specification.

To the contrary, DeLine does not disclose an insulator or carrier member 20 or support body 60 that has a contoured shape corresponding to the shape of the reflector 110. Furthermore, the DeLine reference does not disclose an insulator and reflector that are coextensive.

For these reasons, the Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of independent claim 14, as well as claims 15-19 and 30 which depend therefrom.

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CONCLUSION

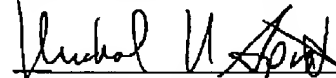
In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the specification is in order and that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal contact would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Attorney of the Applicants at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

Applicant have calculated no fees to be presently due in connection with the filing of this Paper. However, Applicants have authorized charging of any fee deficiency to the deposit account of Applicants' assignee, Visteon Global Technologies, Inc., as indicated in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

1/9/04

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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